

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending in the instant application; claims 8, 10, 18, 19, 22-27, 29 and 31 are objected to and claims 1-7, 9, 11-17, 20, 21, 28 and 31 are rejected. Claim 1, 20 and 21 are cancelled without prejudice to eliminate issues; claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14-18, 22 and 27-31 are amended to more positively recite applicants' patentably novel invention, and claim 32 is added to set forth applicants' patentably novel invention in vary scope.

Claims 2-6, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 2-6, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, however, to reduce the issues, claims 2, and 14 have been amended to meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The Office Action alleges that the phrase "the heated enclosure" in claim 13 lacks antecedent basis. Claim 13 is dependent on claim 11 through claim 12. Claim 11 recites, among other things, a chamber positioned within a heated enclosure. Applicants respectfully submit that the phrase "a heated enclosure" in claim 11 provides an antecedent basis for the phrase "the heated enclosure" in claim 13.

Based on the forgoing, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-6, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

The Office Action states that claims 8, 10, 18, 19, 22-27, 29 and 30 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants respectfully traverse the objection to claims 8, 10, 18, 19, 22-27, 29 and 30, however to reduce the issues, applicants have taken the following action.

Claim 18 dependent on claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of cancelled claim 1. Claims 2, 3, 7, 9, 11 and 14-17 are amended to depend from claim 18 and/or to be consistent with amended claim 18. Claim 8 dependent on claim 1 through claim 7, is amend to include all the limitations of claims 1 and 7. Claim 10 dependent on claim 1 through claim 7 is amended to include all the limitations of claims 1 and 7.

Support for the amendments to claims 2, 3, 7, 9, 11 and 14-17 is found, among other places, in the pending claims. Based on the forgoing, applicants

respectfully request admittance of the amendments to claims 2, 3, 7, 9, 11 and 14-17, consideration of claims 2-19, withdrawal of the objection to claims 8, 10, 18 and 19, and the rejection of claims 2-7, 9 and 11-17, and allowance of claims 2-19.

Claim 22 dependent on cancelled claims 20 and 21 is amended to include limitations of claims 20 and 21, and to more positively recite the patentably novel invention of originally filed claim 22. Claims 27-31 are amended to depend from claim 22 and/or to be consistent with amended claim 22. Support for the amendment to claims 27-31 is found, among other places, in the pending claims.

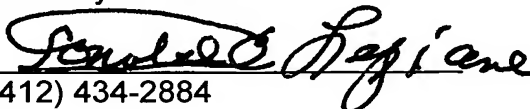
Based on the forgoing, applicants respectfully request admittance of the amendments to claims 22 and 27-31, consideration of claims 22-31, withdrawal of the objection to claims 22-27, 29 and 30, and the rejection of claims 28 and 31, and allowance of claims 22-31.

This amendment adds new claim 32, dependent on claim 22. Support for claim 32 is found, among other places, in paragraph [0012] of the specification. Based on the forgoing, applicants respectfully request admittance, consideration, and allowance, of claim 32.

This amendment represents a sincere effort to place this application in condition for allowance. In the event issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Mr. Andrew Siminerio at (412) 434-4645 or the undersigned at (412) 653-3632 before further action is taken on the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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